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PATTERSON THUENTE SKAAR

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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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#46
Amdd E (NE)
S. Byr
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In re the application of:

Attorney Docket No.: 1416.25US02

NOV 15 2001

GROUP 3700

Carlyle et al.

Application No.: 09/186,810

Examiner: P. Prebilic

Filed: November 5, 1998

Group Art Unit: 3738

For: PROSTHESES WITH ASSOCIATED GROWTH FACTORS

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

Box AF
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of August 24, 2001, amendment to the above-identified patent application is requested. Replacement claims and paragraphs are presented below, and marked-up amendments are presented on separate sheets at the end of this amendment.

In the Specification

Please substitute the following amended paragraph(s) and/or section(s):

At page 21, line 23 to page 22, line 2, please replace the paragraph with the following:

In certain preferred embodiments, the polyvalent cations are associated with only a portion of the substrate. In particular, for tissue heart valves, it may be desirable to only associate the ions with the valve wall, such as the aortic wall for an aortic valve, while leaving the leaflets untreated with the ions. The entire tissue valve preferably would be treated with the VEGF. The